

OUTGOING MESSAGE

COMINT

Approved For Release 2000/08/31 : CIA-RDP78S01932A000100030055-5

CHANNELS

SIGNAL CENTER USE ONLY

AGE

COI

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TOG

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CLASSIFICATION

~~SECRET~~ NFD

CIA/OCI/WHIZ 740326

MESSAGE HANDLING INDICATOR

DATE-TIME GROUP

CITE

MESSAGE REFERENCE NUMBER

CIA/WHSS

SOURCE REF:

1		4		7		10	
2		5		8		11	
3		6		9		12	

TO: IMMEDIATE WHITE HOUSE//SITUATION ROOM FOR MR MCNAMIS,

STATE RCI//OPERATIONS CENTER MR FRY, HMCC//ATTENTION

CIA REP, TREASURY DEPT//INFO FOR [REDACTED] 25X1A9a

WARNING NOTICE SENSITIVE INTELLIGENCE SOURCES AND METHODS

INVOLVED

ITEM NO: 2

DATE: 26 MARCH 1974

SUBJECT: ITALIAN COMMUNISTS CONSIDER MORE MODERATE STANCE

ON NATO

REF 1

25X1A2g

THE ITALIAN COMMUNIST PARTY MAY BE DEVELOPING A "SOFTER LINE" TOWARD NATO AND THE QUESTION OF A CONTINUED US MILITARY PRESENCE IN WESTERN EUROPE. ONE MEMBER OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY SECRETARIAT THINKS THAT THE PARTY SHOULD CONSIDER DECLARING PUBLICLY THAT THE COMMUNISTS WOULD NOT TRY TO ALTER THE NATO STATUS QUO IF ASKED TO JOIN A GOVERNMENT COALITION.

COMMUNIST MODERATION ON NATO WOULD MAKE IT HARDER FOR CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS TO DEFEND THE PARTY'S LONG-ESTABLISHED POLICY OF

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EDITIONS

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EXCLUDING THE COMMUNISTS FROM THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT.

THE COMMUNIST LEADERSHIP MAY FIND IT DIFFICULT, HOWEVER, TO MOVE THE PARTY TOWARD SUCH A POLICY AT A TIME WHEN MANY COMMUNISTS THINK THAT PARTY CHIEF BERLINGUER HAS ALREADY GONE TOO FAR TO MAKE THE COMMUNISTS MORE ACCEPTABLE TO ITALY'S GOVERNING PARTIES.

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(SPECIAL DISTRIBUTION: EUR DIV AND NIO [REDACTED] 25X1A9a

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